

## COMPARE CONTRAST ESSAY

Over the course of this year, we have discussed characters that face choices at a crossroads. Read and annotate the prompt below which you will receive on the final.

Use the surprise poem and select TWO MAIN CHARACTERS from SEPARATE TEXTS on the list below to make thematic connections and observations about how choices can shape and define people's lives.

1. Inherit the Wind
2. Dreams from My Father
3. A Separate Peace

You will then write a four-paragraph essay that makes thematic connections between the text and the poem. In your essay, you should:

- Identify TWO main characters FROM DIFFERENT TEXTS that make choices or give advice to others. Be sure to summarize each text and explain the conflict that the character faces and provide the back-story of his or her crossroads event.
- In two body paragraphs, analyze the choices or advice of those characters and evaluate the reasons or purpose for their conduct. Consider whether their identity, family or community benefit or gain from the choices or advice or whether their identity, family or community suffer from the choices or advice? Compare and contrast their decisions. How do those life decisions shape the characters' lives in ways that are different and similar? Consider the surprise poem and the choices described in the poem.
- Explain the lessons that are learned by each character that makes choices or gives advice to others. Use those lessons to give advice about how people should make crossroad decisions and what consequences and values they should take into account.

You will need to use a total of FOUR TEXTUAL EXAMPLES and FOUR MATCHING QUOTES to support your arguments. In the body paragraphs, be sure to connect the character's behavior to the surprise poem. You MUST INCORPORATE at least TWO DIFFERENT LINES of the POEM in the body paragraphs of the essay. You may ONLY USE QUOTES from the QUOTE BANK and you MUST record the QUOTE accurately and include the page number.

**HOMEWORK due on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 Write three questions that you have about the essay prompt:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Write three brief plot summaries. Each should include the title and author(s), the setting, the general story line, and conflict. Once you choose your texts, you will need to ADD DETAILS that REVOLVE around the CHARACTERS that you select.**

**Plot Summary of Inherit the Wind:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Plot Summary of Dreams from My Father:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Plot summary of A Separate Peace:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

---